

Message Text

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67

ACTION PM-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 /058 W
----- 017813

R 091903 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO CNO WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9744
USCINCSO
COMUSNAVSO
CHNAVPER

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 3942

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI OEXC VE
SUBJECT: US NAVAL OFFICER STUDIES AT LATIN AMERICAN WAR COLLEGES

PERSONAL FOR CNO ADMIRAL ZUMWALT FROM AMBASSADOR MCCLINTOCK

REF: YOUR TEL 050117 Z MAY 73

1. YOUR REFTEL ADDRESSED TO CHNAVSEC, USMILGP CARACAS, CAME IN GOOD SEASON AS I HAD PREVIOUSLY INVITED ADMIRALS SEIJAS AND PEREZ LEEFMANS TO HAVE A HIGHBALL AT THE RESIDENCE LAST NIGHT TO DISCUSS OTHER MATTERS OF MUTUAL NAVAL INTEREST.

2. IN THE PRESENCE OF CHNAVSEC, USMILGP, I ORALLY CONVEYED YOUR MESSAGE AS I HAD A HUNCH THAT PERHAPS OUR TIMING WAS A BIT PREMATURE. THIS HUNCH PROVED CORRECT WHEN ADMIRAL PEREZ HEMMED AND HAWED AND FINALLY ADMIRAL SEIJAS CAME OUT BLUNTLY TO SAY THAT THE ASSIGNMENT OF ANY FOREIGN OFFICER TO THE VENEZUELAN NAVAL WAR COLLEGE WOULD NOT BE OPPORTUNE IN THIS ELECTION YEAR. ADMIRAL SEIJAS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT PROSPECT OF ENROLLING A U. S. OFFICER IN THE NAVAL WAR COLLEGE AFTER THE NEW GOVERNMENT TAKES OFFICE ON MARCH 20, 1974. THIS, HOWEVER, WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE
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FOR OUR NAVY TO SELECT AN OFFICER FOR NEXT YEAR' S COURSE
WHICH BEGINS IN JANUARY. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF RISING TIDE
OF NATIONALISM AS ELECTION HEAT INCREASES, I THINK IT
WOULD BE UNWISE TO PRESS FURTHER AT THIS TIME FOR REALIZATION
FOR WHAT IS IN FACT AN EXCELLENT IDEA.
MCCLINTOCK

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CARACA03942
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730538/aaaaijsb.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by smithrj>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980105
Subject: US NAVAL OFFICER STUDIES AT LATIN AMERICAN WAR COLLEGES
TAGS: OEXC, VE, MILI
To: PM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005